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12 March 1980

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Conversation with the Secretary of Defense, 11 March 1980

1. We disposed of the NIE 11-3/8 problem very quickly. I told the Secretary we were taking the US No SALT projections and all material. He said to me then, "It will be just like last year." I said yes, it will be just like last year, updated. He said that was fine with him. The Secretary incidentally said that he had no objection to our doing net assessments. He just didn't want them in NIE's because of the stature they had. In talking with General Smith also, I detected the line of argumentation against continuing even our quasi-dynamic analyses will be that the NIE has such stature and these are so subject to misinter-pretation that we shouldn't risk that. (S/NOFORN)

4. The Secretary said he had heard that Burlison was suggesting we needed more money in our budget, particularly for electronic warfare. I told him I had not heard that and Burlison hadn't been that specific with me. I did mention that there was pressure from the Senate side to put more money in also, but not for specific items as yet.

He wanted to make sure we were having adequate exchange of information about Congressional reactions to IRA hearings and to NFIP hearings. I told him I assumed that was taking place. I would appreciate reassurance. (S/NOFORN)

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- 5. On the Defense budget, they have a very serious problem with respect to the increased cost of fuel due to underestimating on the budgets for '80 and '81 when they were submitted. In '81, it will be \$3-4 billion. While they have absorbed all of the other costs, such as increased Indian Ocean operating expenses, they cannot absorb this repricing of fuel and are looking at all parts of the budget. They hope not to have to look at the NFIP, but clearly I was being warned that that might be necessary. We'll have to keep our eye on this one. (S/NOFORN)
- 6. The Secretary was pleased with the program that we have approved. (S/NOFORN)



8. He asked about the biological warfare accident that the Soviets had about a year ago according to a DIA report. He wondered if we had tried to validate that report. (S/NOFORN)



10. A.I raised the whole issue of SR-71/U-2 overflights of I went through the explanation of the problems of releasing hotography and, therefore, the need for weaning the way from their desire to have photography in hand. He asked his aide to have the NRO people come back to him with another explanation of why you can't photography and how you can

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25X1D HANDLE VIA CONTROL CHANNELS

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TALENT-KEYHOLE

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get so much information about the system out of it. (I would like a somewhat more full explanation of why you can get system characteristics out of the hotos.) (S/TK)

12. I asked him if he had any suggestions on the PDB and mentioned the President's request for changes. He said he thought a lot of our problem was that it sounded in recent months more as though we were "not on the inside"—that is, he or the President knew more about one activities than we did. We both recognized that was understandable with the pace of events and the degree of focus in the White House—plus the high percentage of the PDB that's been centered on those two areas. (S/NOFORN)

His one suggestion would be that perhaps we should get somebody from INR to join the PDB Staff and help make sure we're working on an up-to-date basis. Let's consider that one. (S/NOFORN)

- 13. I did not take up the item. (S/NOFORN)
- 14. I did mention the progress we are making with the normanded (S/NOFORN)

STANSFIELD TURNER Director

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HANDLE VICE ALENT-KEYHOLE

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AGENDA for 11 March 1980 Meeting with SECDEF/DEPSECDEF

Following your Memoranda for the Record of the last (21 February) meeting are tabs with topics for discussion this week.

Α	Romered.	NIE 11-3/8
В	conver.	General Items
С	concrea.	
D	net conered.	Points (Don't think you should raise until you have talked with JohnI have passed him your view)

SUBJECT

Additional items covered (See MemCon)

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-Burlison suggestion for increased budget

-Defense budget

-National deception operation

-SR-71/U-2 overflights of

-PDB

TAB

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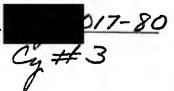
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TOP SECRET

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Remarks: *Paras 1,8,9,10a, and 12 for action; paras 2,7, and 10b for info)

All other paragraphs extracted for action or info as indicated above.

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